

# **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF FOG**

Sanitary sewer overflows not only cost residents financially, they also have a negative impact on the environment through the contamination of natural waterways. Overflowed sewage flows into storm drains and on into ponds, streams and rivers. This can destroy aquatic life and cause health risk concerns for residents using these waterways for recreational activities. Backed-up sewage and accumulated food residue are perfect breeding grounds for bacteria, insects and other vermin.

For more information on Clean Water practices and Stormwater management, please refer to:

# City of Sandy Springs

Public Works
Stormwater Division
770-730-5600
sandyspringsga.org/stormwater



## REPORTING A SEWER OVERFLOW

To report report a sewer overflow, contact Fulton County.

# **Fulton County**

Public Works Department
Water Services Division
North Fulton Office – 770-640-3040
South Fulton Office – 770-995-2976

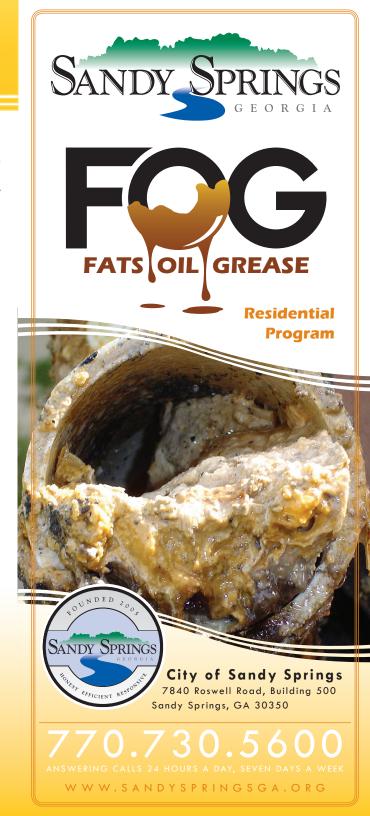
For more information about the **FOG** program and education outreach opportunities, contact:

Fernell Patterson 404-612-8110 fernell.patterson@fultoncountyga.gov

or

The Georgia **FOG** Alliance website: www.georgiafog.com









#### A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

The City of Sandy Springs needs your help to control **FOG**.

**FOG**, or fats, oils and grease **cost Sandy Springs taxpayers thousands of dollars every year** because of the damage caused to sanitary sewer lines. The impacted lines cause sanitary sewer manhole overflows and sewage back-ups in both residential and commercial areas. Sewer back-ups damage City infrastructure, create health hazards and threaten the natural environment. Ultimately, it is the residents of Sandy Springs that end up bearing the unnecessary cost of cleanup and repair.

#### WHERE DOES FOG COME FROM?

Fats, oils, and grease are by-products of many foods and are used in the cooking of food. Grease is the common term for animal fats and vegetable oil. Grease can be found in such foods as:

- Meats
- Sauces
- Marinades
- Salad dressings
- Mayonnaise
- Gravy

- Cooking Oils
- ♦ Cookies & pastries
- Cheese
- Butter & Margarine
- Shortening
- Ice cream

# PREVENT FOG DAMAGE TO THE SEWER SYSTEM

**FOG** enters your plumbing system through home garbage disposals, kitchen sinks and dishwashers. **FOG** coats the inside of your plumbing drain pipes. It then empties into the Fulton County sewer system.



Think of **FOG** as "hardening of the arteries." When cholesterol builds up in the human bloodstream, it causes a heart attack. When **FOG** hardens in the sewer, it causes a sanitary system overflow.



## **DON'T POUR FOG DOWN THE DRAIN**

Fats, oils and grease entering the sewer system increase the cost of maintaining and operating water and sewer services.

The increased cost is ultimately passed on to you, the consumer.

Follow These Easy Steps For Disposal:

- Allow FOG to cool and place in a sealed container.
   Place container in garbage.
- Wipe and scrape excess FOG from plates, pots, pans, utensils and cooking surfaces before washing.
- Put greasy paper towels in the garbage.
- Don't flush grease down drains with hot water.
- Don't unnecessarily dispose of foods in garbage disposals



Stop and Think, Not Down the Sink!